

AGENDA: May 25, 2004

4.9

CATEGORY: Consent

DEPT.: Library

TITLE: Contract for Literacy Services

RECOMMENDATION

Authorize the City Manager to execute a contract with the Santa Clara County Library for adult literacy services in the Mountain View Public Library.

FISCAL IMPACT

Under this agreement, the Santa Clara County Library will provide adult literacy services in the form of an Associate Program Manager for 10 hours per week at a cost of \$12,000 per year for two years. The Mountain View Public Library paid \$11,000 for this service in Fiscal Year 2003-04.

The Library will also provide "in-kind" contributions of work space, meeting space, telephone, network access, use of the copy machine and some staff liaison to the Associate Program Manager. There is no increase to what the Library has been providing, just an acknowledgement of the local in-kind contributions necessary to make the program function.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The Library has provided adult literacy services for 14 years, either through a State grant program or contract with the Santa Clara County Library Reading Program (now called the Vision Literacy Program). The Adult Literacy Program trains tutors and matches them locally with learners who want to learn to read. Most of the tutoring takes place in the Library. To date, this program has been very successful and Mountain View currently has 22 tutor/learner matches. There is a waiting list of 8 to 10 additional learners who are waiting for tutor matches. Vision Literacy Program statistics indicate that Mountain View has the greatest number of tutor/learner matches of any jurisdiction they serve.

Providing literacy services is viewed as an important function of a public library and is supported by the California State Library. Contracting with the Santa Clara County Library Vision Literacy Program is an efficient and economical way to continue to provide this much-needed and well-used service to Mountain View residents. It would not be possible to offer the same level of adult literacy services in-house with this level of funding.

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ALTERNATIVES – Discontinue providing adult literacy services.

CONCLUSION

Staff recommends entering into this agreement with the Santa Clara County Library to provide adult literacy services.

PUBLIC NOTICING – Agenda posting.

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City Manager

KEB/JR/6/CAM
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